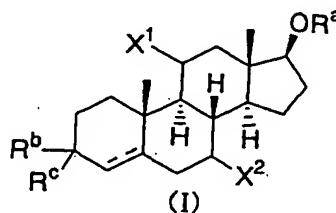


ABSTRACT

Compounds represented by the general formula (I), pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, or prodrugs of 5 the compounds or their salts:



[wherein X¹ and X² represent independently a hydrogen atom 10 or a group represented by the general formula (II)
-Ar-A-R¹ (II)]

R^a represents a hydrogen atom or a protective group of a hydroxyl group, R^b and R^c, when taken together with the carbon atom in 3-position to which they are bound, 15 represent an optionally protected -(C=O)-, and the dashed line in combination with the solid line represents the formation of a single bond or a double bond;

in addition, Ar represents a single bond or an aromatic hydrocarbon group, A represents a methylene group 20 or -O-, R¹ represents an optionally substituted alkyl group, an optionally substituted alkenyl group or an optionally substituted alkynyl group;

provided that X¹ and X² are not a hydrogen atom at the same time], as well as substances that act as antagonist 25 against but not as agonist for the androgen receptor,

pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, or prodrugs of the substances or their salts are useful as antiandrogenic agents and may be used as preventives or therapeutics of a disease selected from prostate cancer, prostatomegaly, male pattern alopecia, sexual prematurity, acne vulgaris, seborrhea and hirsutism.